This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claim 1 (currently amended):   A method of transmitting to a remote node in a data communications network, digital images from an image data source, comprising the steps of:

providing the customer a specific communication apparatus, said communication apparatus having identifying information stored in a memory thereof; and

accessing and transferring one image or a plurality of images from the image data source to said communication apparatus;

automatically determining a closest entry point into the data communications network including the steps of;

(a) automatically sending information from said communication apparatus, via a toll free link, to the data communication network to ascertain the location of said communication apparatus;

(b) at the data network, automatically recognizing the location of said communication apparatus, comparing the location to a stored list of network entry points and selecting the closest entry point, and transmitting back to said communication apparatus the contact information for the selected closest entry point; and

(c) <u>at said communication apparatus, automatically using the provided contact information to establish communication with the data network via the closest entry point;</u>

transmitting said image or plurality of images and said identifying information, through the closest entry point, to a remote node of the data communications network; <u>and</u>

receiving, at the remote node of the data communication network, said image or plurality of images and said identifying information.

Claim 2 (original):   The method of claim 1 wherein the identifying information is preset in the memory in the apparatus.

Claim 3 (original):   The method of claim 1 wherein in automatically determining said entry point GPS information is used.

Claim 4 (original):   The method of claim 2 wherein in automatically determining said entry point caller ID information is used.

Claim 5 (original):   The method of claim 1 wherein the communication network is the Internet, the closest entry point is an Internet Service Provider (ISP) and the remote node is a server.

Claim 6 (original):   The method of claim 1 wherein the transmission of the image or plurality of images from the apparatus to the remote node of the communication network comprises the steps of:

    (A)   constructing from each image at least one of a plurality of packets of information wherein the image is comprised of the totality of packets;

    (B)   transmitting a packet at a given data rate;

    (C)   determining whether the transmission was successful; and

    (D)   performing the following steps, if the transmission is successful:

increasing the data rate,

determining if the data rate exceeds a select maximum data rate;

setting the data rate to the maximum data rate, if the data rate exceeds the select maximum data rate;

    (E)   decreasing the data rate, if the transmission was not successful, until successful transmission is achieved;

    (F)   transmitting a next packet; and

    (G)   repeating steps (B) through (F) until the totality of packets is transmitted.

Claim 7 (original):   The method of claim 1 wherein the transmission of the image or plurality of images from the apparatus to the remote node of the communication network further comprises the steps of:

detecting an interrupting signal; and

interrupting the transmission upon positive detection of the interrupting signal; and

re-attempting transmission after a waiting period following an interruption.

Claim 8 (original):   The method of claim 7 wherein the transmission of the image or plurality of images from the apparatus to the remote node of the communication network further comprises the steps of:

receiving synchronizing information from the remote node, at the initiation of a transmission event;

synchronizing the transmission event with the information received at the remote node.

Claim 9 (original):   The method of claim 1 further comprising the steps of:

rendering the least one of said images in hardcopy form at a remote node of the data communications network.

Claim 10 (original):   The method of claim 1 further comprising the steps of:

rendering the least one of said images in digital form at the remote node of the data communications network.

Claim 11 (original):   The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of:

storing said image or plurality of images at a remote node of the data communications network.

Claim 12 (original):   The method of claim 1 further comprising the steps of:

sharing said image or plurality of images, in at least one of a plurality of image product forms, with at least one of a plurality of recipients.

Claim 13 (original):   The method of claim 1 wherein the identifying information is received at the apparatus and stored in the memory in the apparatus.

Claim 14 (currently amended):   The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of:

entering image data items into a data structure in a memory at a remote node of the data communications network.

Claim 15 (currently amended):   An A communications apparatus enabling the transmission to a remote node in a data communications network, of digital images from an image data source and of identifying information, said communications apparatus comprising:

means for accessing one image or a plurality of images from the image data source;

means for storing identifying information in a storage component of said apparatus; and

means for automatically determining a closest entry point into the data communications network comprising; ~~and~~

(a) means for automatically sending information from said communication apparatus, via a toll free link, to the data communication network to ascertain the location of said communication apparatus;

(b) at the data network, means for automatically recognizing the location of said communication apparatus, comparing the location to a stored list of network entry points and selecting the closest entry point, and transmitting back to said communication apparatus the contact information for the selected closest entry point; and

(c) at said communication apparatus, means for automatically using the provided contact information to establish communication with the data network via the closest entry point; and

means for transmitting the image or plurality of images and the identifying information, through the entry point, to a remote node of the network.

Claims 16-18 (cancelled).

Claim 19 (original): The apparatus of claim 15 wherein said means for automatically determining the closest entry point into the data communications network comprise a GPS receiver.

Claim 20 (original): The apparatus of claim 15 wherein said means for automatically determining the closest entry point into the data communications network utilize caller ID information.

Claims 21-25 (cancelled).

Claims 26-28 (withdrawn without prejudice in restriction requirement election).

Claims 29-31 (cancelled).